

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: February 15, 2019

### **Youth Advisory Council**

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be traveling to Salem on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. The YAC will get to meet with the Governor, Senator Prozanski and Representative Hayden. There will be no YAC meeting on Monday evening.

### **Regional Fiber Consortium Meeting**

The City Manager attended a meeting of the Regional Fiber Consortium this week. The Consortium re-elected him as Chair, approved their 2020 Budget, reviewed fiber lease information and began discussion surrounding the future and plans for the Consortium.

### **Local Government Budget Committee Trainings**

The League of Oregon Cities is providing a free workshop for members of city budget committees detailing the budget process and the roles and responsibilities of all the key players who participate. The training will include information about Oregon's Local Budget Law, typical sources of revenue and expenses, PERS, property taxes, public meetings, public records, and ethics. The training will be held in Florence at the Florence Conference Center, Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

In addition, the Oregon Department of Revenue is also holding a free basic local budget law workshop on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at Chemeketa Community College Winema, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm for governing body members, budget committee members, finance directors, administrators, and budget officers who participate in the budget process. The course covers local budget law basics, and state property tax laws related to preparing local government budgets. Emphasis will be on Budget Committee and citizen participation.

Space is limited. If anyone is interested in attending either of the trainings, please contact Finance Director, Roberta Likens, no later than February 18<sup>th</sup>. She will assist with registration and coordination of transportation.

### **NASA Exoplanets Exhibit Is Here**

The Cottage Grove Public Library is excited to host NASA's latest national touring exhibit, "Discover Exoplanets, The Search For Alien Worlds". The exhibit will be on display from January 30, 2019 to April 20, 2019 at the Cottage Grove Public Library. Please visit the Library web site for a complete list of programs and special events related to this exhibition.

### **Discover Exoplanets Planetarium Field Trips**

Now is the time for teens (ages 13-17) to sign up to attend a free field trip to the Eugene Science Center and Planetarium on Saturday, March 2, 2019 from noon to 4:00 pm. The field trip will see the "other half" of the Discover Exoplanets exhibit and experience the "new" HD Planetarium show. Teens and their parent or guardian should stop by the library soon to register for the field trip. Tomorrow, youth (ages 7-12) will be attending a field trip to the Eugene Science Center and Planetarium.

### **Exoplanet Film Festival and STEAM**

Everyone is invited to join us next Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, for cool and fun STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) activities at the Cottage Grove Public Library. Wednesday is also our "Exoplanets" Film Festival day, and we will be screening the film "A Wrinkle In Time". Bring a handful of friends and join us for an afternoon of fun at the Library. STEAM and the film and popcorn will begin at 3:00 pm.

### **Teen Library Advisory Board**

The Cottage Grove Public Library Teen Library Advisory Board (TLAB) will meet on Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 pm at the Library. Now is a great time for all teens to get involved at the Library helping to envision and design fun upcoming programs and special events. All teens ages 13-17 can participate, so please bring a friend and come down next Thursday to check out the TLAB group at the Library.

### **Legislative Symposium**

On Tuesday the Row River Water Treatment Plant Superintendent and Public Works & Development Director attended the Oregon Water Utility Council's Legislative Symposium in Salem. The attendees heard updates on current bills working their way through the Legislature. Several bills will impact the operation of the water treatment plant. The Oregon Health Authority budget eliminates funding for several of the drinking water programs from the state general fund and replaces them with new fees. This could result in substantial fee increases for the treatment plant. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) budget does not include funding for the DEQ Laboratory. If the laboratory closes the treatment plant has no other accredited laboratory to send the state mandated water samples for testing of cyanotoxins. Funding for the laboratory is critical for meeting the State's water testing requirements.

Following the symposium, the Superintendent and Director visited Senator Prozanski's and Representative Hayden's offices to share concerns regarding fee increases and funding for the State DEQ Laboratory. Staff will continue to monitor the bills and continue to share concerns with our Legislators throughout the session.

### **Armory Bathroom Update**

On Monday Pacific Environmental Group started removing the lead and asbestos in the Armory where the new bathrooms will be constructed. This work will be done next week clearing the way for City Maintenance Division employees to complete the demolition and framing. The new bathrooms are scheduled to be completed and ready for use the first week of April.

### **Bridge Repair Open House**

On Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, the Public Works & Development Department will hold an Open House on the City's Bridge Repair project in the back room at Stacy's Covered Bridge Restaurant from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. City staff will be available to answer all your questions about traffic impacts, detours, scheduling, etc. about upcoming repairs scheduled for the Main Street Bridge, Silk Creek Bridge, and Harrison Bridge occurring this March to May, 2019. Information on the Swinging Bridge Restoration project, scheduled for June to September, 2019, will also be provided. For more information, contact Ryan Sisson, Civil Engineer, at (541) 942-3349.

### *Quote of the Week*

*“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”*

*~Abraham Lincoln~*